

PROCEEDINGS



OF THE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

SYNOD,

OF MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, &c.

AT WINCHESTER, VA.

FOR THE YEAR 1820.

BALTIMORE:

**PRINTED BY FREDERICK G. SCHAEFFER, CORNER OF SECOND AND GAY
STREETS.**

B204 1821.

60

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK

PROCEEDINGS

Of the Meeting at Winchester.

Winchester, (Va.) October 11th, 1820.

This being the day appointed for the meeting of the clergy and lay-delegates of the Evangelical Lutheran Congregations in Maryland and Virginia, to organize a new Synod, the following clergymen and lay-delegates assembled:

Rev. Daniel Kurtz, D. D.	<i>Baltimore, Md.</i>
" John Grob,	<i>Taneytown, Md.</i>
" David F. Schaeffer, A. M.	<i>Frederick, Md.</i>
" Martin Sackman,	<i>Loudon Cty. Va.</i>
" Abraham Reck,	<i>Winchester, Va.</i>
" Benj. Kurtz,	<i>Hagerstown, Md.</i>
" Michael Meyerheffer,	<i>Madison, Va.</i>
" John Kehler,	<i>Middletown, Md.</i>
" Michael Wachter,	<i>Frederick Cty. Md.</i>
" Charles P. Krauth,	<i>Shepperdstown, Va.</i>
" Nicholas Schmucher,	<i>Woodstock, (Shenandoah) Va.</i>

LAY-DELEGATES.

Frederick Loehr,	<i>Frederick.</i>
John Baker,	<i>Winchester.</i>
Abraham Reck,	<i>Taneytown.</i>
George Shryock,	<i>Hagerstown.</i>
Frederick Kiefer,	<i>Loudon Cty.</i>
Jacob Bishop,	<i>Shepperdstown.</i>
Jacob Ott,	<i>Woodstock.</i>

The Revd. Dr. Kurtz was appointed Chairman, and David F. Schaeffer Secretary.

The Revd. Chairman introduced the business of this session with a prayer.

On motion of Rev. B. Kurtz,

Resolved, That a Committee, consisting of three Pastors and three Lay-delegates, be now appointed, to draught a constitution for this Synod, and that the constitutions of the Pennsylvania and New York Synods be consulted by the Committee.

The Revd. Messrs. B. Kurtz, Grob and Krauth, and Messrs. Shryock, Loehr and Baker, Lay-delegates, were appointed accordingly.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

The session was closed with prayer by Mr. Sackman.

Three o'clock, P. M.—Prayer by Revd. B. Kurtz.

The Chairman of the Committee appointed to draught a Constitution for this Synod, reported in part; and in the name of the Committee requested further time to complete the report, which was readily granted.

The Revd. Mr. Krauth, closed with a prayer.

This evening, Divine service was performed by the Revd. Mr. Schaeffer.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M. Oct. 12th.

October 12th, 9 o'clock.—The Revd. Mr. Reck introduced the business with prayer.

The Revd. B. Kurtz continued the report of a Constitution for this Synod.

On motion, *Resolved*, "That the Constitution, as reported by the Revd. B. Kurtz, with the amendments made by this body, be now adopted."

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Constitution may be altered and amended at the next Synodical meeting, by a majority of the members who shall then be present.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Synod do now elect the officers for the ensuing year.

The Revd. Mr. Meyerheffer and G. Shryock were appointed to receive the votes. The following brethren were then declared duly elected:

DANIEL KURTZ, *President*.

DAVID F. SCHAEFFER, *Secretary*.

ABRAHAM RECK, *Treasurer*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Dr. Kurtz and Mr. Reck, or any two of the officers elected, be directed to attend the next General Synod, as representatives of this Synod, in conjunction with Mr. G. Shryock.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary be authorised to purchase the stationary and other articles necessary for this Synod.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Committee of correspondence be appointed, and that it consist of Messrs. Schaeffer, Meyerheffer, and Krauth.

On motion, *Resolved*, That one of our brethren be appointed to attend the next Synod of Pennsylvania. The Revd. B. Kurtz was appointed accordingly.

On motion, *Resolved*, That our representatives for the next General Synod be instructed to obtain information with regard to the legacy left in Europe, for the benefit of our clergy in this country.

Mr. Martin Kibler, (through the Revd. Mr. Reck) expressed his desire to become a member of this Synod.

Resolved, That the corresponding committee inform Mr. Kibler, that if he attends at our next synodical meeting, and is approved of upon examination, he shall be admitted.

On motion, *Resolved unanimously*, That those of our brethren, who are members of this Synod, having been ordained as Deacons by the Synod of Pennsylvania, be, and they are hereby declared pastors in the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Application was made by Mr. Samuel Hersche to become a member of this Synod.

Resolved, That he continue his studies under the care of the Revd. Mr. Meyerheffer, and attend at our next annual meeting.

A committee appointed to form a device for a seal to be used by this Synod, reported that the subject had been attended to.—The design was approved of, and the Revd. President directed to have a seal prepared accordingly.

Prayers were offered by Mr. Schmucker.

On motion, Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

Resolved, That it be the duty of every member of this Synod, to prepare materials for a discipline to be introduced into our congregations, and offer them at the next annual meeting.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the President be appointed to prepare licenses and certificates of ordination, and that he have 125 copies of each printed, (one half in the German, and the other in the English language,) on good and substantial paper, with the seal of the Synod attached to each, for the use of the Synod.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the propriety of a religious publication, devoted to the interests of our Church, be and the same is hereby recommended to the serious consideration of the next annual meeting of this Synod.

The business of the Synod was now accomplished; every member was delighted with the perfect harmony and brotherly love that

prevailed throughout the session. Every one was convinced, that in the organization of this Synod, the hand of God was visible, and the aid of his spirit experienced.

The President gave notice, that ere he could close the session, the time and place of the next annual meeting, must be determined.

Accordingly an election took place, by which it was determined that the next annual meeting, be held in Frederick, Maryland, on the first Sunday in September.

The brethren having united in singing a hymn, the President offered to the throne of grace, a fervent prayer, and declared the Synod adjourned.

This evening divine service was performed by the Revd. B. Kurtz,

DANIEL KURTZ, PRESIDENT.

(ATTESTED.)

DAVID F. SCHAEFFER, SECRETARY.

P. S. Previous and subsequent the session, discourses were delivered, by the Revd. Messrs. Meyerheffer, Krauth, Kehler and Goodman.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

SYNOD,

OF MARYLAND, VIRGINIA, &c.

AT FREDERICKTOWN, Md.

FOR THE YEAR 1821.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Meeting at Fredericktown.

Frederick, September 2d, 1821.

This being the day appointed for the meeting of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Maryland, Virginia, &c. the Clergy and Lay-delegates assembled in this city.

The Rev. Doct. Kurtz, president of the Synod, delivered the pastoral discourse. Text, II Cor. 4. 5.

The Rev. S. Schmucker, preached in the afternoon. Text, II Philip, 6. 7.

The Rev. C. P. Krauth, preached in the evening. Text, II Cor. 8. 9.

The Rev. M. Sackman, preached in the morning, in the German Reformed Church. Text, XI Matth. 29.

September 3d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The members of the Synod, assembled in the church, when, after singing a hymn, the Rev. President offered to the throne of grace, an appropriate prayer.

CLERGY PRESENT.

Daniel Kurtz, D. D.	<i>Baltimore, Md.</i>
John Grob,	<i>Taneytown, Md.</i>
John Herbst	<i>Manchester, Balt. County.</i>
David F. Schaeffer, A. M.	<i>Frederick, "</i>
Frederick Haas,	<i>Woodsborough, Fred'k Cty.</i>
Martin Sackman,	<i>Loudon County, Va.</i>
Abraham Reck,	<i>Winchester, Va.</i>
Benjamin Kurtz,	<i>Hagerstown, Md.</i>
Michael Meyerheffer	<i>Harrisonburgh, Va.</i>
—— Heyer	<i>Cumberland, Allg'y. Co. Md.</i>
Michael Wachter	<i>Frederick Co. Md.</i>
Henry Græber	<i>Uniontown, Md.</i>
John Kehler	<i>Middletown, Md.</i>

Charles P. Krauth

Martinsburgh, Va.

Samuel S. Schmucker, B. A. *New-Market, Shenand'a, Va.*

Rev. Messrs. — Møller and — Herbst, being delegates from the Synod of Pennsylvania.

LAY-DELEGATES.

Michael Shorr

Baltimore.

Abraham Lichterwald

Taneytown.

George Matter

Manchester

Jacob Bayer

Frederick.

John Ebert, Esq. }

Solomon Creager

Woodsborough.

John M. Rohrer

Loudon County, Va.

George I. Harry

Hagerstown.

Col. John Rush

Harrisonburgh.

Martin Reiser

Cumberland.

Jacob Rouzton

Middletown.

Jacob Bishop

Martinsburgh.

Michael Wagner

Uniontown.

Rev. Helfenstein of the German Reformed, and Rev. Johns of the Episcopal Churches were introduced to the Synod, and received the attentions which are usual on similar occasions.

Agreeably to the constitution, an election was held for officers, for the ensuing year. The following brethren were elected, viz:

DANIEL KURTZ, D. D. President,

DAVID F. SCHAEFFER, A. M. Secretary.

ABRAHAM RECK, Treasurer.

The following papers and documents were laid on the table, viz:

No. 1. Three letters from Augusta county, Va. and documents relating thereto, from the Synod of Pennsylvania.

No. 2. Letters from St. Peter's church, Rockingham county, Va.

No. 3. A letter from Uniontown, Md.

No. 4. Several letters from Georgetown, and a letter from the Rev. J. Goodman, upon the same subject.

No. 5. Letters from Shenandoah county, Va.

No. 6. A letter from Creagerstown, Md.

No. 7. A letter from Newmarket, Va.

The proceedings of the last meeting were read. The president apportioned the papers and documents which had been received among the following committees:

No. 1. Rev. Messrs. Heyer, Herbst, jun. Moeller, Schmucker, and Messrs. Bayer and Schorr.

Nos. 2, 3, 4. Rev. Messrs. B. Kurtz, Reck and Messrs. George I. Harry and Matter.

Nos. 5, 6, 7. Rev. Messrs. Sackman, Herbst, Jr. and Messrs. Rohrer and Routzon.

The president reported, that he had attended to the duties assigned him by the last Synod, and laid on the table for examination, a seal for this Synod, certificates of ordination and blank licenses.

Resolved, that the thanks of this Synod be tendered to the President for the faithful performance of the duties assigned him.

On motion, Resolved, That each minister in stating the number of children baptized, persons confirmed, &c. specify, at how many different periods he administered the Lord's supper, and that it be noticed in the proceedings.

	Baptized.	Buried.	Com'ets.	Confr'd.	Congr'n.	School.
Dr. Kurtz	104	49	233	26	1	1
John Herbst	195	18	*185	35	3	4
John Grob	112	7	305	105	3	
D. F. Schaeffer	157	52	*475	29	1	1
F. Haas	80	29	*261	21		5
A. Reck	150	10	800	40	9	
B. Kurtz	213	111	*1105	51	4	5
K. Graeber	82	30	*543	12	6	4
C. P. Krauth	76	40	164	10		3
M. Sackman	64	23	183	34		2
M. Meyerheffer	156		*187	28		3
— Heyer	140	24	*200	17		
J. Kehler	98	24	96	16	2	4
S. Schmucker	40	25	90	20	5	5
George Flohr	112	14	331	91	6	2

* At two seasons.

Prayers being offered by the Secretary, the Synod adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

3 o'clock, P. M.—Prayers by Mr. Sackman.

Mr. Rohrer obtained leave of absence, on account of the indisposition of his family.

The Rev. B. Kurtz, chairman of the 2d committee, reported as follows:

No. 2. Contains a letter from St. Peters church in Rockingham county, (Va.) signed by thirty-one individuals, who speak of the Rev.

Mr. Kibler, a member of the North Carolina Synod, in terms of the warmest and unqualified approbation, earnestly praying, that he may be admitted into this Synod.

Also, a letter signed by the church council of Mr. Kibler's congregation, in which are contained eight accusations against the said Mr. Kibler.

Whereupon it was resolved, that the charges against Mr. Kibler, be investigated in the ministerial session, and that a committee be appointed to examine him, previous to such investigation.

The Rev. Messrs. Grob and Herbst, jun'r. were appointed to examine Mr. Kibler.

No. 3. A letter from Winter's church, signed by sixteen persons censuring the Rev. Mr. Grob, formerly their pastor, and expressing their dissatisfaction with the Rev. K. Graber, now the officiating minister of said congregation.

No evidence having been produced to substantiate any accusation, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the complaint lodged against Mr. Grob is unfounded.

Resolved, That this Synod cannot find any cause of complaint against Mr. Graber, and that the Secretary write to said congregation an admonitory letter, with a copy of these resolutions.

No. 4. A petition from the officers and managers of the Orphan Assylum in Georgetown, (D. C.) praying the Synod to transfer to them, for the use of said institution, a certain lot of ground, originally purchased for the Lutherans of said Georgetown, by the late and much lamented Dr. Ott.

There being other letters, testifying, that considerable personal property had been bequeathed to the Lutherans—the real value and state of property belonging to the Lutherans in Georgetown not being known—the following resolution was in consequence adopted:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to enquire into the situation and state of certain real and personal property, belonging to the Lutherans in the District of Columbia, and further, to employ all possible means to recover said property, to the use of said Lutherans; to act in this affair as their prudence and wisdom may dictate.

The Rev. David F. Schaeffer and Benjamin Kurtz] were accordingly appointed.

Prayers by Mr. Meyerheffer:

Adjourned to Sept. 4th, 9 o'clock A. M.

This evening the Rev. Mr. Heyer delivered a discourse—Text, Acts 17, 30, 31.

Sept. 4th, 9 o'clock, A. M.—Prayers by Mr. Reck.

Mr. Heyer, chairman of the 1st committee reported: That the letters and other documents which had come before the committee, had been carefully examined; that they contained charges against the Rev. Mr. Meyerheffer, whom the Rev. Mr. Riemenschneider and his friends accused of creating an uneasiness in his congregations, by moving into the neighbourhood and officiating for them without any authority whatever.

On the other part, evidences were produced that Mr. R. had voluntarily resigned in one congregation, and that he was solemnly and legally discharged by another, before Mr. M. officiated in either.

The committee could not find any thing clear, as regards the Picket mountain congregation' in which Mr. M. now officiates.

After a full discussion, and an exhibition of proofs on the part of Mr. M. which had not come before the committee, it was resolved:

1. That the majority of the members of said congregations, appearing to be dissatisfied with the Rev. Mr. R. and the uneasiness now existing amongst them being so great, it is the opinion of this Synod, that tranquillity can only be restored, if Mr. R. removes to other congregations.

2. That from the evidences adduced, the Synod cannot decide, with regard to the prudence or imprudence of Mr. M. in taking charge of the Picket mountain congregation.

The Rev. Mr. Sackman, chairman of the 3rd committee, reported, that they examined the letters marked 5, 6, 7.

No. 5, contains a recommendation for Mr. Kibler.

No. 6, contains a respectful petition of the congregation at Creagers-town, that the Revd. Mr. Haas be discontinued as pastor of said congregation, and that they be permitted to engage another.

On motion resolved: That the Rev. Mr. Haas, continue his services in said congregation, until November next, and that no other minister of our church, be permitted to take charge of said congregation, until all arrearages due Mr. Haas, be paid him.

No. 7, a letter from the congregations under the pastoral care of the Rev. S. Schmucker, expressing their decided approbation of his deportment generally, and the doctrines taught by him.

On motion resolved, That a committee be appointed to compose a discipline, to be introduced into the congregations connected with this Synod.

The Rev. Messrs. B. Kurtz, A. Reck, and S. Schmucker, and Messrs. I. Ebert, G. I. Harry and Bishop, were accordingly appointed.

Prayer by Mr. Herbst, junr.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

3 o'clock, P. M.—Prayers by Mr. Grob.

The constitution of the general Synod was read; the question was taken upon each article separately, and finally upon the whole constitution, which was unanimously assented to.

Agreeably to said constitution, this Synod is authorised to elect two delegates of the rank of ordained ministers, and two lay-delegates, to the General Synod. The following brethren were duly elected.

The Rev. Messrs. D. Kurtz and David F. Schaeffer,—and Messrs. John Ebert of Frederick, and George Shryock of Hagerstown.

An invitation from the managers of the Frederick county Bible Society, that this Synod, attend a general meeting of said society, was read.

Resolved, That the members of this Synod, most cordially accept of the invitation.

The committee appointed to compose a discipline, &c. reported:

That in their opinion, this matter is of too much importance, to be accomplished during the present session of the Synod. They therefore recommend, that a committee be appointed, to consist of three pastors and an equal number of lay-delegates, whose duty it shall be to meet, at such time and place, as they may think proper, in order to prepare such discipline, and to submit it to the consideration of the next Synod. And, this committee farther recommends, that it be the duty of every minister, being a member of this Synod, to communicate his ideas upon this subject, to a member of the committee, appointed for the purpose, within two months from this date.

The report was adopted, and the same committee re-appointed.

The annual contributions, from the congregations, were now received by the treasurer, through their delegates.

The treasurer being called on to report the state of the treasury, informed the Synod, that he had received since the existence of this Synod \$194 33; of which \$42 were expended in the purchase of articles, by the direction of the Synod; leaving in his hands a balance of \$152 33.

Colonel Rush, observed, that in his opinion, (and with which his colleagues coincided,) the proceedings ought to be printed in both languages, for the use of the different congregations, who contribute toward the establishment of a treasury.

Resolved, unanimously, that the proceedings of the last and present Synod be printed: viz. 250 copies in the English, and as many in the German language.

The business of the Synod having now been transacted, the time and place of the next synodical meeting, viz.

On the first Sunday in September, A. D. 1822, at Cumberland, in Allegany county, Maryland.

The President closed the session with a fervent prayer, and discharged the lay-delegates.

This evening the Rev. B. Kurtz delivered a discourse—Isa. 45. 22.

Extracts from the Minutes of the ministerial sessions.

SEPTEMBER 5TH, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The ministers met. After singing a hymn, a prayer was offered by Mr. Kehler.

The report of the committee appointed to examine Mr. Kibler, being heard, and the charges against him minutely examined, it was unanimously resolved: That the Rev. Mr. Kibler, be acknowledged by us as a Catechet of the North Carolina Synod: that it be enjoined on him during the ensuing year, obediently and diligently to prosecute his theological studies with the Rev. S. Schmucker, and that, by virtue of his license, he is authorised to retain the charge of the congregations now under his care, and by the consent of Mr. S. may preach in any other that may request it:

That, in case he obeys the injunctions and regulations of the Synod, and no well founded complaint is lodged against him, at our next Synodical meeting, he may expect to be admitted to membership in our body.

Resolved, That the secretary give Mr. K. a copy of the above resolution, and that he read it publicly, to those congregations, in which he hitherto preached.

Mr. Ribler assented to these resolutions, and solemnly engaged to govern himself accordingly.

The Rev. Messrs. Grob and Reck, were appointed to examine Mr. John Winter, an applicant.

Resolved, That the Rev. Messrs. Graeber, Kehler, Krauth, and S. Schmucker, be ordained this evening, and that the Rev. M. Wachter, be likewise ordained, immediately after he shall take charge of congregations.

Resolved, That at the next Synodical meeting, the Lord's supper be administered to the members of the Synod, and such others as the

pastor of the place may approve of, immediately after the morning service.

Prayers by Mr. Herbst, jun.

Adjourned to 5 o'clock, P. M.

FIVE O'CLOCK, P. M.

Resolved, That whenever any of our brethren, may know of facts, or witness occurrences, in their congregations, which if made public, could tend to the edification of ministers, they shall inform the secretary thereof, whose duty it shall be, to offer it to the consideration of the subsequent Synod.

Upon the report of the committee, appointed to examine Mr. John Winter, it was resolved: That he be licensed as candidate for the ensuing year, and continue his studies.

After singing a hymn, the president closed the session with prayer.

This evening a discourse was delivered by the Rev. Mr. Grob—text Acts xx. 28.

After the discourse, the president, assisted by the other officers and the Rev. Mr. Grob, solemnly ordained, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Evangelical Lutheran church, the following brethren, as pastors in said church: viz. Henry Graeber, John Kehler, C. P. Krauth, and S. Schmucker:—and, having read to Mr. Winter the duties of a candidate, gave him a license for one year.

The pastor-loci, then delivered a short valedictory address, and dismissed the congregation.

From the multiplicity and intricacy of business, it was anticipated, that the sessions would be tedious. But, every brother seemed determined, to do his utmost, that all business be transacted without delay. Every subject was discussed, and finally decided without a division. The utmost harmony unanimity and brotherly love prevailed throughout the session. It was pleasing to hear, that the preaching of Christ crucified, was acceptable to individuals in each district, and that some were added to the number of the faithful followers of Jesus, during the past year.

DANIEL KURTZ, D. D. *president.*

Attest,

DAVID F. SCHAEFFER, A. M. *secretary.*

FINIS.

...of the ... may ... after the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...

... of the ...